

## Message Text

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65-60

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 EB-07 /055 R

DRAFTED BY ARA-LA/EP: JFKING:GFH

APPROVED BY ARA - WILLIAM D. ROGERS

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O P 042304Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 048538

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TFOL, EC, US

SUBJECT: GOE REACTION TO SECRETARY'S SPEECH

1. ASST SEC ROGERS CALLED ECUADOREAN AMB CARDENAS TO TELL HIM USG SURPRISED, SADDENED AND DISAPPOINTED WITH GOE REACTION TO SECRETARY'S MARCH 1 HOUSTON SPEECH. CARDENAS WAS TOLD SECRETARY'S INTENTION WAS CONCILIATION, NOT CONFRONTATION, THAT HIS PURPOSE WAS NOT TO SINGLE OUT ECUADOR OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY IN PASSAGE WHICH GOE SEEMED TO FIND OBJECTIONABLE. FROM TONE AND TERMS OF REACTIONS, U.S. COULD ONLY CONCLUDE SPEECH WAS BADLY MISREAD BY GOE.

2. CARDENAS, AGREEING PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ' HIP-SHOT FROM GUADELOUPE WAS UNFORTUNATE (QUITO 1477) ASKED TO COME IN TO SEE ASST SEC TO DISCUSS MATTER. AT OUTSET OF THEIR MEETING, CARDENAS TRIED TO EXPLAIN SITUATION AS SOMETHING OF FLUKE. HE SAID UPI CORRESPONDENT TRAVELING WITH PRES RODRIGUEZ GOT RODRIGUEZ TO SAY HE WAS ORDERING  
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FONMIN TO CONTEST SECRETARY'S QUOTE VEILED ACCUSATIONS

UNQUOTE THAT ECUADOR RESPONSIBLE FOR POSTPONEMENT OF  
BA MINISTERIAL THROUGH QUOTE STERILE AND ARTIFICIAL CON-  
FRONTATIONS. UNQUOTE. STORY DULY FILED FROM POINT A PITRE.

3. CARDENAS, WHO SEEMED UNFAMILIAR WITH FORMAL GOE  
STATEMENT, POINTED TO PARAGRAPH IN SECRETARY'S SPEECH  
REFERRING TO POSTPONEMENT OF BA MINISTERIAL. HE UNDER-  
SCORED JUXTAPOSITION OF WORD QUOTE SUCH UNQUOTE IN  
LAST SENTENCE AS POINTING FINGER AT GOE AND VENEZUELA  
FOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR POSTPONEMENT.

4. TENDENTIOUS NEWS AGENCY REPORTING OF THIS PASSAGE  
IN SPEECH, HE SAID, UNDERSTANDABLY SET OFF STRONG NEGATIVE  
REACTIONS IN ECUADOR, WHERE SKINS ARE EXTREMELY THIN ON  
THIS SUBJECT AND PEOPLE ARE ALL TOO READY TO SEIZE UPON  
A WORD OR TWO TO RAP U.S.

5. ASST SEC ROGERS REPEATED USG SURPRISE THAT THE GOE  
HAD RESPONDED SO STRONGLY BEFORE RECEIVING THE FULL  
TEXT OF THE SPEECH. HE NOTED THAT THE SECRETARY BE-  
LIEVED THAT THE SPEECH WAS A POWERFUL AND PERSUASIVE  
EXPOSITION OF LATIN AMERICAN VIEWS.

6. IN REPLY CARDENAS STATED THAT IN POLITICS YOU RUN  
AGAINST AND NOT FOR, AND FOR THAT REASON THERE IS A  
TENDENCY IN LATIN AMERICA TO OVER-INTERPRET CERTAIN  
U.S. STATEMENTS. THIS PARTICULARLY TRUE OF QUOTE DE  
FACTO UNQUOTE GOVERNMENTS SUCH AS GOE. CARDENAS SAID  
THAT HE HOPED THAT THE U.S. COULD IGNORE SUCH GUT  
REACTIONS, THAT WE WOULD NOT BE DISCOURAGED BY THIS  
DEVELOPMENT. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD ADVISE THE FOREIGN  
OFFICE TO ISSUE A COMMUNIQUE CLARIFYING EARLIER STATE-  
MENT.

7. CARDENAS SEEMED TO BE APOLOGIZING FOR UNMEASURED  
STATEMENT BY HIS PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENT FOREIGN OFFICE  
COMMUNIQUE ISSUED MARCH 2 ON RODRIGUEZ INSTRUCTIONS. HE  
APPEARED TO BE TRYING TO HEAD OFF WHAT HE BELIEVED MIGHT  
BE A STRONG REACTION BY THE USG. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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